More of the same?

Learning from experience

By William L. Trimyer
Pastor, Elon Bantist Church
The Judgment and Compassion of God
Lesson for August 31, 1980
Scripture Reference:
Malachi
Focal Passages: Malachi 3:1-10

This lesson marks the end of our pilgrimage of study in the Old Testament. Our brief look at Malachi will bring us to a new series of lessons from the New Testament. In this final Old Testament lesson we see some references to the coming Messiah. Phrases like "the messenger of the covenant" and "the sun of righteousness" have special application to the person and mission of Jesus.

Commitment To Justice
Mal. 2:17-3:6)

Do we always learn from experience? Not necessarily! Some people seem to go back for more of the same actions which do them in. Oftentimes our memory is so short lived. This was the case for the exiles who returned from captivity. Sadly enough, they turned against God and complained about their circumstances.

Yet the people did not seem to comprehend the idea that their continued complaint wearied the Lord. What we're talking about is insensitivity. There is a real need for awareness and sensitivity in our relationships to people and to God.

The "sin" of insensitivity can create wide chasms between individuals, institutions, and God. It pays to be aware of the needs and struggles of others. In so doing we make life easier and more bearable for them and us. The same is true of our relationship to God. Awareness of his expectations will provide us with a deep sense of security towards all of life.

Malachi notes that the people accuse God of being unfair. Their attitude seemed to say, "Why must things be the way they are?" And who among us has not raised that cry upon certain occasions? But such a question is not uncommon from human perspective. We look to something or someone on which to place the blame. Persistant blaming of God seems to undermine his divine architectual designs for human life and history.

God's response to the people is this: "I will send my messenger to prepare the way before me..." God says that the future events will be proof that his righteous justice would soon

The Bible and daily living

establish itself in a new kingdom, and we can't help but interpret this to mean Christ's kingdom.

Invitation To Come Home
(Mal. 3:7)

The handwriting on the wall was clear to God. The people of every generation had chosen not to conform to the Lord's demands. For generations they had participated in brokenness and were themselves broken. The invitation from God is to return to him and come home to their true home. This is the Gospel of repentance!

The people as people will tend to be did not or would not hear what God was saying to them. Perhaps because of pride they asked, "Where shall we return?"

God's response was silence. What could he say? What more could he have said that would have helped the people understand?

A "Welcome Home" sign is a "sight for sore eyes." To return home after a long trip is often a refreshing and security producing experience. And whenever we choose to follow God's dreams and demands for us, we are on the road to healing and recovery.

Encouragement To Share

(Mal. 3:8-12)

Will a (person) rob God? The answer is obvious to all. Yes. We humans sometimes take for granted the bounty of gifts that come to us from God. There is a good lesson from Malachi. The lesson is this. "Gratitude will change your attitude!"

Whenever we can express gratitude for God's good gifts to us, we are on the way to seeing life itself as a gift, and something that is to be celebrated.

Malachi describes the disease of ingratitude as a "nationwide illness." The lack of stewardship on the part of the people disturbed the author of all of life. God offers the people the assurance that blessing follows giving. Perhaps each of us can attest to the fact that when we give we always receive something in return. Unselfish giving is a sure road to blessing.

Dr. Trimyer is pastor of Elon Baptist Church in Pamplin, VA.

To contact animal warden
Call 352-8241

Anyone wishing to contact the Appomattox County animal warden should call 352-8241, according to Barbara Williams, clerk fo the circuit court.

She notes that the dog pound is located at the county landfill site on Route 632.

In addition she says, the animal warden has requested that all dogs in the county have owners' identification tags.

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By P. Edward Leonard
Minister, Memorial United Methodist Church

This is the season when many are moving or preparing to move to college. They will have new addresses. Statistics tell us we are a mobile culture and most families make many job related moves. For all who are relocating now and in the future, what will be your forwarding address? Where can you be found?

Paul wrote to the Philippians:

Not that I have already obtained (the spirit of Christ) or am already perfect; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own....forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature be thus minded." (Phil. 3:12-15)...

God has created our world so it changes. The difference for most of us from all other parts of the universe is that we can determine the direction of our change.

We have the options now to choose what our new address will be and what kind of accommodations we move into. Asking that God lead us is not asking for magic. It is an attitude about life in faith. To ask "Where is God leading?" is the faithful response "What does God ask of me in this experience, this situation?"

I wish for you, in the words of Howard Kohn, the following blessing at your address this year.

"Let us have more spacious minds. Let there be room for new truth, no matter how offensive it may be to our old prejudices; room for disagreement without bitterness and rancor; a place for leisurely reflection, for reading the best books, for listening to the best music, for enjoying and absorbing the most beautiful sights. Provide room for recollections of the towering heroes of the human race and the saints who have blessed the world; room for contemplation of God's works and His great goodness."

And I wish for you more spacious spiritual rooms where we have space for all kinds of peoples in our love, affection, and prayers; room to grow in belief and compassion; greater patience with people of all ages; space for more discipline in our private and public devotions and worship.

Homecoming at Promise Land

A very successful homecoming was held last Sunday at the Promise Land Baptist Church. The Rev. John Austin of Buckingham County was the guest speaker. Special music was rendered by the Pleasant Valley Baptist Church men's chorus. All who attended the morning service were richly feed. The home offering was very good.

The afternoon service was rendered by the Rev. R. Q. Lawing, Jr. and his gospel chorus of the Third Liberty Baptist Church of New Canton, Va. Dinner was served by a special committee of the church. The service through out the day was enjoyed by all.

A large number of relatives and friends attended the funeral service of the late Mr. Orlston Nowlin in Baltimore last week. He was the son of the late Mrs. Emma Nowlin. He is survived by one sister, Miss Pauline Nowlin and his wife. Several relatives also survive.

News has been received here of the death of Mr. Ned Patterson, formerly of Appomattox, Va. in a Baltimore hospital. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this writing. Sympathy is extended the family.

A special service will be held at the Springfield Baptist Church this Fifth Sunday. The public is invited to attend.

Revival is being conducted this week at the Promise Land Baptist Church. The Rev. R. Q. Lawing, Jr. is the speaker. The following choirs will render the music for the week as follows: Monday, Promise Land; Tuesday, Mt. Shiloh; Wednesday, The Gospel Harmonetts; Thursday; Mt. Zion Choir of Stonewall; Friday, Galilee Sr. Choir. Service will begin each evening at 8 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

DONALD BALDWIN, Pamplin Ruritan Club's President, (L), presents most valuable player trophies to Darren Tolley (second from left) and Chris Hamlett, (R), while Dixie Youth Queen Tammy Weaver looks on. Darren and Chris were selected as the most valuable players on the Pamplin major and minor league teams respectively.

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Mrs. Michael Sterling Gallier

Miss Cover is wed to Mr. Gallier

The marriage ceremony of Julia Meade Cover, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Cover of Lancaster, Virginia, and Michael Sterling Gallier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sterling R. Gallier of Appomattox, Virginia, was performed at Bethal United Methodist Church, Lively, Virginia, on Sunday, August 24, at 3:00 p.m. The Reverend C. Dooley Hitch, a presbyter from Tyler, Texas and uncle of the bride, and the Reverend L. Douglas Hill, Jr., pastor of the Bethal-Emmanuel Charge, consecrated the double-ring worship service.

The church was decorated using tree styled, graduated candlelabras and cathedral candles and a background of palms, with two arrangements centered on each window sill.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore her mother's gown of ivory satin, fashioned with a birthe of heirloom, rosepoint lace and bouffont skirt ending in a wide circular train. Her veil and full length train of illusion fell from a brimmed cap, also fashioned from similar lace. The bride carried her maternal great-grandmother's white prayer book, adorned with a cascade of pastel colored flowers, and wore her seed pearl necklace with a rosette pendant. A specially designed and initial linen handkerchief, made by her paternal grandmother for the occasion, was also a part of her accessories.

Mrs. Catherine C. Emry, sister of the bride, of Lancaster, was matron of honor. She wore a blue, grecian-styled, full length gown and carried a white basket with rainbow flowers. Other attendants were Miss Sarah Ruth Cralle of Farnham, Mrs. Cheryl S. Keith of Ware Forest, North Carolina, Mrs. David B. Ross, cousin of the bride, of Petersburg, and Mrs. Warren W. Searbrough, III of Richmond, each whose dress and accessories were similar to those of the matron of honor.

Mr. Richard B. Gallier, brother of the bridegroom, of Mission, Texas, was the best man. Other groomsmen were Messers Warren K. Coleman of Harrisonburg, Charles G. Cover, brother of the bride, of Columbus, Ohio, Bruce E. Gallier, cousin of the bridegroom, of Appomattox and S. Christian Gallier, Jr., cousin of the bridegroom, of Concord.

The mother of the bride wore a full length yellow gown, with an overlay of matching lace, and a corsage of white cymbidium orchids.

The bridegroom's mother wore a full length light turquoise chiffon gown and a corsage of white cymbidium orchids.

Mrs. Norman R. Tingle, organist of Bethal Church, provided traditional wedding music before the service. Mrs. L. Douglas Hill, Jr. sang "Annie's Song" and "The Wedding Song", accompanied by Mrs. Tingle.

A reception following the service was held in the fellowship hall of the church.

After a wedding trip, the couple will make their home in Dahlgren, Virginia.

Miss Bowling weds Mr. Timberlake

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Bowling of Appomattox announce the marriage of their daughter, Pettis Ann, to T. Wayne Timberlake, son of Mrs. Paulina Timberlake of Spout Spring.

The double-ring ceremony took place at Woodland Baptist Church, Colleen Village, Virginia on August 17 immediately after the worship service.

Mrs. Danny Hix of Pamplin was the matron of honor; Jim Martin of Spout Spring acted as best man.

The Reverend V. V. Goldie officiated.

Miss Fleshman will wed Mr. Jensen

Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Fleshman of Evergreen are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Donna Marie, to Paul William Jensen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Watson Jensen of Monroe, Louisiana.

The wedding will take place Oct. 4 at 2 p.m. in the bride's home in Evergreen.

Although no invitations will be sent, all friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Torrences enjoy family reunion

On Sunday, August 17, the Torrence family assembled at the Woodman of the World Building in Appomattox for the seventeenth consecutive family reunion. It was a most enjoyable day for those who could attend.

Attending and registering were Mrs. J. L. Torrence, Elliott and Lorraine Torrence, Dennis, Pat and Zane, Larry, Gloria, Matt and Kim, Mike, Pat Ann, Micah and Wyatt, and Sheila and Mike Lewis. Thelma Conner, Cheryl, Carrell, Todd and Pam, and June Thornhill with Donnie and Ronnie. Also, Alpha Mae and Frank Hancock, Steven and Chip.

Also, Charles and Minerva Torrence, David, Becky, Sherri, Burt and Gene, Aileen Timberlake, James and Carla Torrence, Frances and Russell Conner, Russell A. (Sambo) and Wanda, and Mary C. Garris, Bryant and Kay.

Also, Louise F. and Monroe Foster, Garland and Ruby Torrence, Garland Torrence Jr. and Karen, Lorene T. Richardson, Bertha T. Dickerson, Fay D. Sams, Chris, Jason and Shanon.

Also, Wallace and Mary Torrence, Earl and Margaret B. Torrence, and Margaret T. and James Booth.

Also, Alfred and Mary Torrence.

Also, Betty M. and Richard Webb, Verna M. and Richard Hamilton, Vara M. Robertson, Willie D., Lola and Scott Morris, Rachel M. Day and Harold and Marjorie Morris, Lucille O'B. and Louis, Dahl, Polly T. and Jack Ayers, Cecil Torrence and Annie T. Ellett.

Among the guests were the Rev. Rex Bennett, Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Davis, Katie Gilbert, Grace Morris, Donnie Ferguson, Edith O'Brien, Alma Porter, Catherine Gills Frazier, Isabelle O'Brien Haug, and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Childs.

At the business meeting Mike Torrence was elected president. He serves with Dennis Torrence, Thelma Conner, Cecil Torrence and Annie T. Ellet.

Luncheon honors Mrs. Martin

Mrs. Vassie Martin of Lynchburg, Va. was honored Monday, August 18 with a covered dish luncheon given by a number of her neices, Mrs. Blanch Day, Mrs. Eva Mayberry, Mrs. Margaret Martin of Appomattox, Va. Mrs. Susie Martin of Spout Spring, Va. and Ms. Minnie Martin of Lynchburg, Va.

Others present was her daughter Mrs. Iris New, her grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Ray New, Jr. and her two great grandchildren, Adam and Addie New all of Lynchburg. Little Brian Lee and Sherry Gail Floyd of Spout Spring, Va. was also present for this happy family fellowship.

Mrs. Martin, the wife of the late Cleveland Martin, is 93 years old and still very active. Her beautiful roses is the evidence of her love for flowers. She prepares her own meals and keeps a neat and very attractive home for her family and many friends.

CLASSIFIED ADS ....RESULTS....
TIMES-VIRGINIAN

Social News

Staff Sergeant Grover P. Beasley, III has returned to Wichita Falls, Texas after spending the past week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grover P. Beasley, Jr.

• • •

Mrs. Mamie Cheatham and Mrs. Minnie Massey spent last week with Rev. and Mrs. D. L. Bailey in Tazewell, Va.

• • •

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Beasley of Glendale Heights, Ill. are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Grover Beasley, Jr. and other relatives here.

• • •

Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Grover P. Beasley, Jr. were Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Beasley and daughters, Lisa and Susan, of Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Hamlett of Hurt, and Mrs. Grover P. Beasley, Sr. of Appomattox.

• • •

Carter Coleman of Lexington spent the weekend with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Coleman.

• • •

Mrs. Francis Elliott is a patient in Virginia Baptist Hospital.

• • •

Mr. Ferguson celebrates 76th birthday

Family and friends of Elisha T. Ferguson gathered Sunday, August 24, at the home of a daughter, Frances Harris to celebrate his 76 birthday. Those present were, Mrs. Elisha Ferguson, Mick and Erma Page, Bobby Ferguson, Oral and Chrsifine Ferguson, Lloyd and Dot Ferguson. Grandchildren present were: David and Charlotte Page and Kristy, Mike and Janice Page, Mike Jr. and Angela, June Harris and Jeff Flowers, Louise Calloway and Tammie, Tina, Neal, and Sue, Tammy and Lisa Ferguson, Mark Ferguson, Dale Franklin, Russell Jr., Danna and Brenda, Ronnie and Barbara Guthrie. Also present were Hap and Gladys Ferguson, Billy and Jean Brown and Nellie Calloway.

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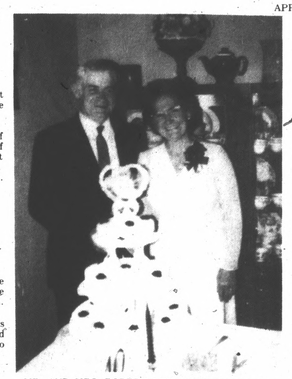

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT LEE O'BRIEN of Prospect were honored on Sunday, August 10, 1980, with a reception given at their home in celebration of their fortieth wedding anniversary. Hosts for the occasion were their daughter, Edith O. Baldwin, of Prospect; their son, Robert L. O'Brien, Jr., of Sandston; and their son and daughter-in-law, Tommy and Rhonda C. O'Brien, of Farmville. They have three grandchildren. Many friends and relatives from far and near attended the gala event.

BARBARA STANLEY, daughter of the late Bernice Bingham (Gilbert), is shown with a piece of birthday cake that is 55 years old. Barbara found the cake while going through a trunk that belonged to Bernice, her mother. The slice of cake is left from Bernice's 22nd birthday, Oct. 16, 1925. It was made by Mrs. Gladys B. Woodson, Bernice's sister, at Virginia Grove in Clearwater, Fla. Bernice was 75 when she died March 3 of this year.

Shower honors Miss Layne

Miss Gail Layne, bride-elect, was honored Saturday evening August 23, 1980, with a miscellaneous shower, given by Mrs. Herbert D. Gordon of Virginia Beach, Va. at the home of Mrs. Ben Wheeler.

The marriage of Miss Layne to Mr. Thomas B. Wheeler will be an event of September 27, 1980 at 7 o'clock at the Memorial United Methodist Church.

Miss Layne was presented a corsage by the hostess.

The wedding color of apricot was carried out in the decorations and the flower arrangement that centered the refreshment table.

Those attending were friends and relatives of the honoree.

Announce birth

Robert and Myrna Doss are proud to announce the birth of a son, Jarrett Brandon Doss, seven pounds, one ounce, born on Aug. 10, 1980 at 5:49 p.m. They also have another son, Robert, Jr. (Tyl, age 20 months.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Mann, paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Doss; paternal great grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Seay; paternal great grandmother is Mrs. Opel Doss; all of Appomattox.

Baldwins plan reunion

The family of the late Doc Baldwin will hold its annual reunion this Sunday (Aug. 31) at the Pamplin Fire house.

All in attendance are asked to bring a covered-dish lunch. Lunch will begin at 2 p.m.

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